7th July, 1991 indicating that the red palm oil cultivation started in 1977 by the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation is yet to make a significant impact although the price of the oil is remunerative for the corporation to go in for plantation;

(b) whether Government, in view of recent policy of devaluation of rupee, propose to provide fiscal incentives under the Technology Mission on Oilseeds to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Forest and Plantation Development Corporation to take up plantation on a large scale to curtail imports of vegetable oils; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Due to the ban on converting natural forest to artificial mono-culture plantation.

Filling up of vacant posts in various Govt. of India Presses

847. SHRI KHYOMO LOTHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of vacancies in the category of copy-holder have been lying vacant in the Government of India Presses, Minto Road and Ring Road, New Delhi and Faridabad since long;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a number of other vacancies in Group 'D' posts such as Labourer, Machine Attendant, Bindery Asstt. are also lying vacant in the above said Presses since long;

(c) whether it is also a fact thar all the above said posts are connected with the productive work and due to non-filling up of these vacancies, the productive work is suffering; and

(d) if the reply to (a) and (b) be in the affirmative what are the details of each vacancy Press-wise and what action have been taken by the Press Authorities to fill up the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) Vacancy position in these grades in these Presses is as under :—

Name of the Press	No. of vacancies as on 1-7-1991			
	Copy Holder	Labourer	Machine Attendant	Bindery Assistant
Minto Road	10	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ring Road	6	28	5	9
Faridabad	14	22	26	36
Photolitho Faridabad	Nil	19	Nil	27

Vacancies could not be filled up because of the earlier Government decision to close-down four units at Calcutta and Simla with a view to absorbing the surplus staff. However, each such case is considered on its own merits and vacancies are allowed to be filled up wherever considered essential in the interest of production.

Train accidents

848. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway accidents in the last two years along with the date, place and the reason of accidents;

(b) whether any enquiry was conducted, if so, by when and the result thereof, accident-wise; and

(c) whether the passengers were compensated, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) During the years 1989-90 and 1990-91, 540 and 532 train accidents respectively took place at different locations on Indian Railways. All these accidents have been inquired into. The inquiries revealed that a majority of the accidents were attributable to human failure, equipment failure and sabotage.

(c) Rs. 53.88 lakhs and Rs. 228.95 lakhs were paid as compensation during 1989-90 and 1990-91, respectively to the passengers involved in train accidents.

849. [Transferred to 30 July, 1991]

Construction of broad gauge line from Ahmednagar to Vaijnath

850. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Broad Gauge Railway line from Ahmednagar to Parli Vaijnath via Beed is likely to be taken up for work; and

(b) if so, by when work is likely to start and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Railways are facing acute constraint of resources. Moreover, the survey report has revealed inadequate traffic prospects on this section.

Assistance to Cooperative Sugar Factories in Maharashtra

851. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have made some suggestions for extending assistance/relaxation to new Cooperative Sugar Factories in Maharashtra so as to make them viable; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Government of Maharashtra have suggested recategorisation of Maharashtra State into three zones for the purpose of incentive scheme and have else requested that more funds may be placed at the disposal of National Cooperative Development Corporation (N.C.D.C.) for meeting share capital needs of new cooperative sugar factories.

Formulation of a new incentive scheme is under consideration of Government. During 1991-92, Rs. 30.00 crores have been provided to NCDC under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for share capital participation, as against Rs. 8.00 crores provided during 1990-91.

Nhava-Sheva-Uran railway line

852. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to take Nhava-Sheva-Uran Railway line on priority;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.